ACK. BY
Library

BOROUGH OF NEW ROMNEY

KENT

ANNUAL REPORTS OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1964

LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE AND TROPICAL MEDICINE
LIBRARY
12 FEB 1968

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b29901352

BOROUGH OF NEW ROMNEY (KENT)

Annual Reports of the Medical Officer of Health and of the Public Health Inspector for the Year 1964

Mr. Mayor, Alderman and Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1964.

Population

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year Home Population was 3,330 which was an increase of 370 over that of the previous year.

Live Births and Birth Rate

The number of live births was 70 (36 M. 34 F.) which was an increase of 11 over that of the previous year and the crude birth rate was accordingly 21.02, after adjustment by the Registrar General's Comparability factor which is computed from a population standardised for age and sex distribution and allows valid comparison with other Districts the rate becomes 22.49; this being higher than that of 18.4 for England and Wales.

Stillbirths and Rate

Three stillbirths were registered and the corresponding rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births was 41.09, compared with that of 16.3 for England and Wales.

Infant Mortality and Rate

Three infant deaths were registered and the Infantile Mortality Rate was accordingly 42.86 in comparison with that of 20.0 for England and Wales.

The causes of death were:-

i. Prematurity - 7 hours

ii. Asphyxia in Pram)
Misadventure) - 8 months

iii. Congenital Hydrocephalus - 9 months

(These figures, however, are too small for valid statistical comparisons).

Maternal Deaths and Mortality Rate

This rate was nil as there were no maternal deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion and is a general index of the high standard of modern obstetric practice.

Total Deaths and Death Rate

The total number of deaths from all causes was 43 (25 M. 18 F.) and the crude death rate was 12.91, which, after adjustment by the Registrar General's Comparability Factor, as for births, becomes 16.14 compared with that of 11.3 for England and Wales.

The chief group cause of deaths was from the natural causes of death amongst the aged, i.e. Heart and Circulatory Diseases and Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System, of which there were 20 in number.

Disease of the Coronary Artery of the Heart was the cause of 12 of those 20 deaths i.e. 60% in the following age-groups; 1 between 45 - 54; 1 between 65 - 74: 10 over 75 years. Having regard to the fact that these figures are too small, from which to make a valid deduction, nevertheless

the pattern confirms that the majority of deaths are within the 65 - 74, and over 75 age-groups; this would suggest that degenerative processes are an important factor.

Cancer, as invariably in previous years was the second highest cause of deaths, of which there were 8 in the following age-groups; 2 over 75 years.

Cancer of the Lung was the cause of 2 deaths (1M, 1F) in the following age-group; both between 55 - 64 years.

Cancer of the stomach caused one death; 65 - 74 age group.

Cancer of the Breast also caused one death: over 75 years.

The other causes of death were miscellaneous and there was no exceptional mortality.

The Infectious Diseases

The incidence of notifiable Infectious Disease throughout the Borough during the year was very low, and none of the more serious infections was notified.

Measles

In contrast with the outbreak of the previous year in which 125 cases were notified, only 9 were notified in 1964; this follows the usual pattern of outbreaks every second year.

It is equivocal whether this infection should still be notifiable as per se it is not a serious disease and its more serious complications are becoming less and less frequent. During epidemics busy Practitioners find it difficult to find the time to complete the notification forms and unnecessary work is added to office staffs, including the disbursement of fees.

Whooping Cough

Only three cases were notified which may be attributed to the preventive barrier created by vaccination which is done in infancy in Child Welfare Centres and by the family Doctors.

This distressing children's disease has been the cause of much lung damage and innumerable deaths amongst infants in former years.

Acute Primary or Influenzal Pneumonia

Six cases of this illness were notified. Including the secondary Pneumonias which are not notifiable, 2 deaths were registered in the following age-group, i.e. over 75 years. Pneumonia is commonly a terminal cause of death amongst the aged.

Tuberculosis

It is noteworthy to record that this was the second successive year in which no new case of Respiratory or non-Respiratory Tuberculosis was notified and also that no death was registered.

This is a reflection of the progress made towards the elimination of this once dreaded disease which was well-named the 'White Plague'.

In conclusion, in my opinion, the Public Health of the Borough was very satisfactory throughout the year, and I would take this opportunity of thanking you for your support to the Department and for the co-operation and efficiency of the staff.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. MARSHALL M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

The Central Public Health Department,
14, Church Road,
Ashford,
Kent.

Tel: No: Ashford 1485

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

FOR 1964

Area:- 1,514 acres

Registrar-General's Estimate of:-

The Resident Population	3,330
Number of Inhabited Houses According to the Rate Books	1,213
Rateable Value	£120,103
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	£488

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The ancient and historial Cinque Port of New Romney, is today predominantly an Agricultural District. There are also within the Borough the workshops of the Romney, Hythe, Dymchurch Light Railway and a few small factories. Part of the boundary is formed by the sea at Littlestone and Greatstone where there are wide expanses of sand which attract many summer visitors and holiday-makers. There is almost no unemployment and social conditions may generally be regarded as being satisfactory.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

						New Romney Borough	England and Wales
1.	Live Births	70	36	34	Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	21.02 (Adjusted Rate 22.49)	18.4
	(a) Legitimate	66	35	31			
	(b) Illegitimate	4	1	3			
2.	Stillbirths	3	2	1	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	41.09	16.3
	(a) Legitimate	2	2	-			
	(b) Illegitimate	1	-	1			
3.	Total live and stillbirths	73	38	35			
4.	Deaths	43	25	18	Death rate per 1,000 resident population	12.91 (Adjusted Rate 16.14)	11.3
5.	Deaths from Pregnancy Childbirth, Abortion	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	Nil	Not Available
6.	Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age	3	2	1	Rate per 1,000 live births	42.86	20.0
	(a) Legitimate	3	2	1	Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	45.45	
	(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil	
7.	Deaths of Infants under Four Weeks of Age	1	-	1	Rate per 1,000 live births	14.44	Not Available
	(a) Legitimate	1	-	1			
	(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
8.	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births					5.71%	

9. Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 8
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ... -
Deaths from Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ... ... -
Deaths from Measles ... ... -

The following cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year:-

Scarlet Fever ... ... -
Acute Primary or Influenzal Pneumonia 6
Whooping Cough 3
Measles 9

CAUSES OF DEATH IN NEW ROMNEY BOROUGH DURING 1964

ALL CAUSES	Males 25	Females 18
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	2	2
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-
16. Diabetes	-	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	-	1
18. Coronary disease, angina	8	4
19. Hypertension with heart disease	-	-
20. Other heart disease	3	-
21. Other circulatory disease	2	2
22. Influenza	-	-
23. Pneumonia	-	2
24. Bronchitis	3	1
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	1	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	1
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1	-
34. All other accidents	1	-
35. Suicide	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality, 1964

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths				Total Cases on Register			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	8	-	-
1 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
5 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
15 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
25 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
35 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
45 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
55 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis of patients who had not been notified as suffering from this disease

IMMUNISATION

The following table shows the diphtheria immunisation and whooping cough immunisation figures for 1964.

Year of Birth	Diphtheria Immunisation (Singly or in Combination)		Whooping Cough Immunisation (Singly or in Combination)
	Primary	Reinforcing	Primary
1964	24	-	24
1963	42	1	42
1962	8	14	8
1961	11	9	1
1960	-	2	-
1955-1959	2	27	2
1950-1954	-	-	-
Total	87	53	77

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

Year	3rd and 4th Dose (Salk and Oral)	3 Orals (Complete Course)
1964	-	12
1963	-	54
1962	-	10
1961	-	3
1949-1960	41	8
1933-1948	1	4
Others	3	4

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Primary Vaccination 1 Year	Re-Vaccination School Age but Under 8 Years
48	1

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The quantity of water supplied to the area is adequate and the supply is not plumbo-solvent

(A) Examination of Water Supplies during the year

	Bacteriological Examination			Chemical Examination		
	No of Samples	Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory
Statutory supply undertakings	2	2	-	1	1	-
Private sources piped to dwellings	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other private sources	-	-	-	-	-	-

(B) (i) Number of dwellings not supplied by public water mains or other adequate piped supplies ... Nil

(ii) Number of dwellings in the area ... 1,178

(iii) Number of houses supplied from standpipes ... Nil

(C) Brief details as to extensions of water mains during the year:-

Rolfe Lane extensions - 136 yards - 3" cast iron water main
Meehan Rd., extension - 96 yards - 3" cast iron water main

(D) Action taken in respect of any form of contamination -
No contamination detected

FOOD (INCLUDING ICE CREAM AND MILK) AND FOOD PREPARING PREMISES

(i) (a) the number of food premises in the area ... 42

(b) the number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955

(i) Retailers of Ice Cream ... 32

(ii) Preparation and manufacture of Sausages and Preserved Foods etc. ... 2

(c) the number of inspections of registered food premises 11

(d) the method of disposal of condemned food - Burial at Refuse Tip

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Butchers and meat products manufacturers	10
Catering Establishment and Clubs	4
Dairies	-
Fish (including fried)	1
Licensed Premises	-
Stalls, Itinerant Vendors and delivery vans	2
All other Food Premises	6

Number of Informal (including Verbal) Notices Served (Food and Drugs Act - Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955) 1

Number of Food Premises improved as a result of notices served Nil

Inspection of Food and Food Preparing Premises

Observations on manufacture and sale of ice-cream in accordance with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations 1947 - 1959. - NIL

Inspection of food-stuffs for surrender is made upon request.

(ii) Milk and Dairies

(1) Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949 (Part 111)
Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959 (Part 111)

No. of registered distributors ... 6

No. of registered dairies ... -

Comments on structural and other improvements to dairy premises during the year:-

New refrigeration plant installed at one distributors depot.

(2) SUMMARY OF MILK SAMPLING (INFORMAL) for the purposes of Milk (Special Designations) Regulations.

	No. of Samples taken	No. of Samples which failed
Pasteurised Milk	5	Phosphatase Test: NIL
		M.B. test: NIL
Sterilised Milk	-	Turbidity test: NIL
Tuberculin Tested (raw)		M.B. test: NIL

COMMENTS ON RESULTS Three of the above tests were rendered void by the Laboratory as the permissible atmospheric shade temperature was exceeded

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Unsound Food Surrendered

	lbs.		lbs.
Chilled Beef (Hindquarter)	186	1 Doz Saviloy	1
Canned Ham	$\frac{1}{2}$	1 Doz Frankfurters	1
Danish Bacon	$7\frac{3}{4}$	2 Mettwurst Rings	2
2 Packets Brisket	11		

Total weight condemned - 208 lbs.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS

HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE

A. Houses demolished

In Clearance Areas (Housing Act 1957)	Houses Demolished	Displace during year Persons	Displace during year Families
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	-	-	-
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement	-	-	-
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2) Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-
Not in Clearance Areas			
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-

B. Unfit Houses Closed	Number
(5) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Acts, 1957	-
(6) Under Section 17(3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957	-
(7) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957	-

C. Unfit Houses made fit and Houses in which defects were remedied

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(8) After informal action by local authority	1	-
(9) After formal notice under -		
(a) Public Health Acts	-	-
(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957	-	-
(10) Under Section 24 Housing Act, 1957	-	-

(D). Unfit Houses in temporary use (Housing Act, 1957)

Position at end of year	No. of houses (1)	Number of separate dwellings contained in column (1) (2)
(11) Retained for temporary accommodation		
(a) Under Section 48	-	-
(b) Under Section 17(2)	-	-
(c) Under Section 46	-	-
(12) Licensed for temporary occupation under Section 34 or 53	-	-

E. Purchase of Houses by agreement

	No. of houses (1)	Number of occupants of houses in column (1) (2)
(13) Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders purchased in the year	-	-

IMPROVEMENTS AND CONVERSIONS. GRANTS

No. of Grants submitted	... ...	4
No. of Grants approved	... ...	2
No. of dwellings concerned	... ...	5

Total amount paid out in 1964 - £435

INSPECTIONS - Summary of inspections made:-

Public Health Act, 1936 and Housing Act, 1957

Number of inspections of dwellings re repairs	...	20
Number of dwellings made fit	...	1
Number of inspections for purposes of Sections 16/17 Housing Act (Demolition and Closing Orders)	...	-
Number of inspections of clearance areas	...	-
Number of inspections for general survey and assessment	...	-

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958
Housing Subsidies and Standard Grant

Number of inspections in connection with Improvement Grants	...	-
Number of inspections in connection with Standard Grants	...	9

Housing and Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 and Rents Act, 1957

Number of inspections re Certificates of Disrepair	...	-
Number of inspections re Certificates as to Remedying of Defects	...	-

Housing (general)

Number of inspections re housing applications	...	-

Public Health Act

Number of inspections re:-

Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	12
Aged and Infirm Persons	...	-
Vermin	...	-
Dirty Houses	...	-
Offensive accumulations	...	-
Offensive odours	...	6
Nuisance from Keeping of Animals	...	-

NOTICES SERVED	Informal	Formal
Public Health Acts	4	2
Housing Acts	-	-

HOUSING

(i) No. of families on Council's waiting list at 31-12-64	...	97
(ii) No. of Council houses built during the year	...	64
(iii) No. of Private houses built during the year	...	41

CARAVAN SITES

There is one caravan site in the area, namely, New Romney Caravan Sites Ltd., Greatstone and the number of caravans on this site is 135.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING

1-1100 gall. S.D. tanker is engaged full-time and 1 - 800 gall Ford tanker for part-time.

DRAINAGE

Total number of inhabited houses (including Flats(is	...	1,294
Total number of houses connected to the sewers	...	726
Number of houses not connected to the sewers	...	568
Number of premises connected to cesspools	...	548
Number of premises with pail closets	...	20

REFUSE COLLECTIONS AND DISPOSAL

One Karrier Bantam 10 cub. yd. rear loader with three loaders enaged wholetime.

SALVAGE

Waste paper and cardboard is collected and baled.

DISINFESTATION

The number of houses found to be infested with vermin was as follows:

	Bugs	Fleas	Cockroaches
Council houses	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other houses	Nil	Nil	Nil

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 to 1959

1. Inspections for purposes of provision as to health (including inspection by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
i) Factories in which Section 1,2,3, 4 and 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	3	-	-
ii) Factories not included in (i) which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	12	10	-	-
iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	20	-	-	-
	33	13	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (5)	No: of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

Part V111 of the Act - Outwork - Sections 110 and 111

There are no outworkers employed in the Borough.

		TYPE OF PROPERTY: Non-Agricultural (1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	(3) All Other (incl. Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	(5) Agricultural
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District		5	1294	228	1527	2
2. Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification		-	19	6	25	-
Number of such properties found to be infested by:- Common Rat	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	-	-	-	-	-
Ship Rat	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	-	-	-	-	-
House mouse	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	-	1	2	3	-
3. Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act		5	-	-	5	-
Number of such properties found to be infested by Common Rate	Major	1	-	-	1	-
	Minor	2	-	-	2	-
Ship Rat	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	-	-	-	-	-
House mouse	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	-	-	-	-	-

		TYPE OF PROPERTY Non-Agricultural				
		(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	(3) All Other (incl. Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	(5) Agricultural
4. Total number of properties otherwise inspected		-	100	20	120	2
Number of such properties found to be infested by:						
Common Rat	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	-	1	-	1	-
Ship Rat	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	-	-	-	-	-
House Mouse	Major	-	-	-	-	-
	Minor	-	2	-	2	-
5. Total inspections carried out incl. re-inspections		15	70	32	117	-
6. Number of infested properties (in Secs. 1, 2,3 and 4 treated by L.A.		1	19	6	26	-
7. Total treatments carried out (incl. re-treatments)		1	23	8	32	-
8. Number of notices served under Sec. 4 of the Act		-	-	-	-	-
9. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sec.4. of the Act		-	-	-	-	-
10 Legal Proceedings		-	-	-	-	-

Any other points of interest

Influx of rats started in August this year.

LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE AND TROPICAL MEDICINE
LIBRARY
12 FEB 1968